

Message Text

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53

ACTION AF-18

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS : TGEN UR GV

SUBJECT : GUINEAN-SOVIET SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION ACCORD

1. A SOVIET SCIENTIFIC DELEGATION HEADED BY THE VICE MINISTER OF GEOLOGY LEFT CONAKRY ON AUGUST 4, AFTER SIGNING A SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION ACCORD WITH THE GUINEAN GOVERNMENT. IN A CONVERSATION WITH THE CHARGE ON AUGUST 6, SOVIET AMBASSADOR RATANOV SAID THE ACCORD PROVIDES FOR SOVIET CONSTRUCTION OF A SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH CENTER IN CONAKRY AND FOR OCEANOGRAPHIC RESEARCH.

2. ACCORDING TO RATANOV, GUINEAN PRESIDENT TOURE FIRST REQUESTED SOVIET ASSISTANCE IN SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH SEVERAL YEARS AGO. THE SOVIETS WANTED THE CENTER TO BE PART OF THE POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE THEY BUILT AT CONAKRY AND WANTED THE GUINEANS TO BUILD THE NECESSARY BUILDINGS FOR THE CENTER. THEY FINALLY GAVE IN TO THE GUINEANS AND HAVE NOW AGREED TO BUILD THE CENTER AS A GIFT TO GUINEA. IT IS INTENDED THAT THE CENTER WILL CARRY OUT SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND PROGRAMMING FOR ALL GOVERNMENT MINISTRIES AND TRAIN SCIENTIFIC CADRES TO REPLACE SOVIET TECHNICIANS AND INSTRUCTORS. AT THE SAME TIME

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THE SOVIETS PLAN TO CARRY OUT THEIR OWN TROPICAL RESEARCH AT

THE CENTER.

3. THE CHARGE TOLD THE SOVIET AMBASSADOR ABOUT EARLIER US DISCUSSIONS WITH THE GUINEANS FOR THE USE OF COUNTERPART FUNDS TO CARRY OUT JOINT SCIENTIFIC AND AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH PROJECTS WITH GUINEA.

4. ANOTHER FIELD COVERED BY THE GUINEAN-SOVIET AGREEMENT WAS OCEANOGRAPHIC RESEARCH. AMBASSADOR RATANOV GAVE NO DETAILS ON THIS. AN OCEANOGRAPHIC RESEARCH AGREEMENT COULD, OF COURSE, PROVIDE THE SOVIETS WITH A COVER FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF PERMANENT PORT FACILITIES FOR THEIR NAVAL OPERATIONS OFF GUINEA.

HAVERKAMP

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